



PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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A NEW GYMNOCORONIS FROM MEXICO.

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The following new species of *Gymnocoronis* has been found in the recent examination of material in the National Herbarium.

*Gymnocoronis sessilis* Blake, sp. nov.

Herb 40 cm. high and more, glabrous throughout, dark green, the lower part not seen; stem stoutish, hollow, striatulate; internodes 9 to 11 cm. long; leaves opposite, sessile, lanceolate, 8 to 9 cm. long, 1.5 to 2.2 cm. wide, attenuate or acuminate, cuneate or the upper subamplexicaul at base, obscurely serrulate, apparently somewhat fleshy, the costa prominulous beneath, the two pairs of rather weak lateral nerves arising well above the base, the secondaries few; uppermost pair of leaves (subtending the inflorescence) abruptly smaller, 3 to 4 cm. long; peduncles 3, terminal and in the axils of the uppermost pair of leaves, 5 to 6 cm. long, with small leafy bracts toward apex or nearly naked, each bearing a cymose panicle of about 8 heads; pedicels 0.5 to 2 cm. long, naked or 1-bracteate; heads discoid, about 8 mm. high and thick, about 60-flowered; involucre 2-seriate, equal, 4 to 5 mm. high, the phyllaries linear-oblong or the outer somewhat obovate, subherbaceous, obtuse, erect, obscurely ciliolate, 3-nerved, 1 to 1.4 mm. wide; receptacles rounded, weakly alveolate, the margins of the alveolae bearing subsessile glands; corollas glabrous, 3.4 mm. long (tube 1 mm. long, enlarged at base, throat funnelform, 2 mm., teeth 4 or 5, deltoid, obtuse or acutish, 0.4 mm. long); achenes oblong-prismatic, 3 mm. long, slightly curved, 5-ribbed, densely glandular-papillose between the ribs, epappose; anther appendages short, membranous, retuse; styles branches elongate, clavellate; style surrounded at base by a persistent 5-lobed nectary.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 939611, collected in the suburbs of San Juan Bautista, Tabasco, Mexico, April 13, 1889, by J. N. Rovirosa (no. 456).

The genus *Gymnocoronis* has hitherto consisted of two species, *G. attenuata* DC., a somewhat variable plant of which two forms are recognized, and *G. latifolia* Hook. & Arn. From the former *G. sessilis* differs in being entirely glabrous, in its strictly sessile leaves, obtuse phyllaries, and glabrous corolla. The latter, described from Jalisco and known to me only

from description, is said to have the leaves ovate, serrate, "vastly longer" than those of *G. attenuata*, two inches or more wide and decurrent on the petiole, the phyllaries oblong and acute, and the heads much larger than in *G. attenuata*.

*Gymnocoronis attenuata* DC. is represented in the National Herbarium by only two sheets, one of which was collected by Otto Kuntze at Santa Cruz, Bolivia, in 1892. The other, collected by Gerald McCarthy (no. 29) in "locis navalibus," eastern North Carolina, September, 1888, provides what is apparently the first record for this plant in the United States. It was doubtless a chance introduction, which has not persisted. The closely related genus *Adenostemma*, however, contains at least one species, *A. viscosum* Forst., of a pronounced weedy character.

*Gymnocoronis attenuata* DC. (Prodr. 5: 106. 1836) was first described by D. Don (ex Hook. & Arn.; Hook. Comp. Bot. Mag. 1: 238. 1835) as *Alomia spilanthoides*. In 1838 (Prodr. 7: 266) De Candolle described *Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*, citing "*Alomia spilanthoides* Wight et Arn. in litt.! 1836" as a synonym. All these names apply to the same species. The use of the name *Gymnocoronis spilanthoides* (D. Don) DC., as by Chodat (Bull. Herb. Boiss. II. 3: 703. 1903) and inferentially by Baker in the Flora Brasiliensis, does not seem permissible under the Rochester Code of Nomenclature, since the description of *G. spilanthoides* by De Candolle is accompanied not by a reference to Don's published name but by a reference to the manuscript "*Alomia spilanthoides* Wight et Arn." The publication of *G. spilanthoides* by De Candolle in this way of course prevents, under the Rochester Code, the use of the subsequent homonymous combination based on the published name of Don.